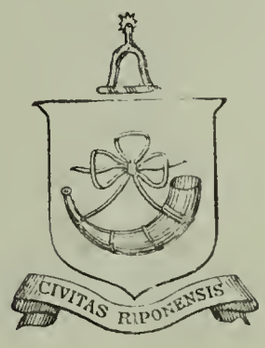

CITY OF RIPON.

REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1895.

RIPON:

HILL, PRINTER AND STATIONER, 26, MARKET PLACE.

1896.

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Report of the Medical Officer of Health,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1895.

RIPON, FEBRUARY, 1896.

GENTLEMEN,

As Medical Officer of Health for this City, I beg to submit my Eighteenth Annual Report of the Vital Statistics and Sanitary Work in the City for the past year.

I have received and filled up the usual Returns from the Local Government Board and the West Riding County Council, copies of which are annexed hereto.

I have also shown in those Returns the Deaths in the Cottage Hospital and Workhouse during the year; and, as far as possible, the Deaths occurring in the City, of persons not belonging thereto.

A Summary of the Returns give the following particulars, viz. :—

Births.

During the Year 1895, the number of Births registered was 208, (an increase of 22,) of which 112 were males, and 96 females, giving a Birth-rate of 27·5 per 1000. Of these, 12 were illegitimate, (including the Workhouse,) as against 19 for the preceding year. The Birth-rate for the West Riding for 1894, varied from 47·1 to 13·6 per 1000.

Deaths.

The Deaths registered within the City numbered 122, 66 males and 56 females. Three Deaths occurred in the Workhouse (last year the number was 11), and 5 at the Cottage Hospital, leaving 104 for the remainder of the City.

The Death-rate for the whole City was 16·1 per 1000, and exclusive of the Workhouse, and Cottage Hospital, 15 per 1000.

The number of Deaths occurring in the City, of persons not belonging thereto, was 12, which, deducted from 122, gives a Death-rate of 14·5 per 1000.

The Death-rate for the whole of the City in 1894 was 18·5 per 1000.

The Death-rate in the West Riding (excluding the five County Boroughs of Leeds, Bradford, Sheffield, Halifax, and Huddersfield,) in 1894, ranged from 22·4 per 1000 at Ardsley, to 9·6 at Ilkley, and 12·9 at Harrogate, the County Death-rate being 16·0. The Death-rate for the 5 County Boroughs was 17·3, and for England and Wales, 16·6.

Infant Mortality.

Of the Deaths, last year, 25 occurred in Infants under the age of one year, being at the rate of 120 per 1000 of the Birth-rate; the rate last year was 112 per 1000. In the West Riding, for 1894, the average was 137; in the 5 County Boroughs, 153; and in England and Wales, 137.

Mortality at Groups of Ages.

The 122 Deaths in the City, last year, included 35 of children under 5 years of age; 6 deaths occurred between 5 and 15; 9 deaths occurred between 15 and 25; 33 occurred between 25 and 65; and 39 were of persons aged 65 and upwards.

Zymotic Diseases.

During the year, there have been very few deaths from Zymotic Diseases, classed as follows:—

Croup	1
Measles	1
Diarrhœa	4
Rheumatic Fever	1
Whooping Cough	1
	8

Of the above deaths, 7 were children 5 years of age. The Death-rate from Zymotic Diseases was 1·0 per 1000. Last year, the number of deaths was 6.

During 1894, in the West Riding, the Death-rate from Zymotic Diseases was 1·45; in the 5 County Boroughs, 1·89; and in England and Wales, 1·76.

Other Diseases.

During the past year, there have been 13 deaths from Phthisis, 22 from Bronchitis, 9 from Heart Disease, 1 from Influenza, and 6 from Injuries.

The Death-rate from Zymotic Diseases is very favourable, and the Death-rate amongst young Children is also low.

Infectious Diseases.

During the past year I have received 6 Notifications as follows:

Typhoid Fever	3
Scarlatina	1
Diphtheria	2
	6

One case was taken to the Fever Hospital. Two cases were imported into the City.

In 1894, the number of Notifications was 12.

On receipt of the Notifications, I went with the Sanitary Inspector and made an inspection of the premises where the cases occurred, and every precaution was taken to check the spread of the Diseases, and to see that the premises were put into a good sanitary condition.

Private Improvements.

The Marquess of Ripon has entirely redrained his property at 24 and 25, North Street, and fixed ventilating pipes to head of drain.

The City and County Banking Company have abolished privy and ashpit, and fixed new w.c. with proper ventilated soil pipe, disconnecting trap, and inspection chamber, disconnected sinks and bath waste pipes, and built a new ashpit properly cemented.

Mr. F. Smith has redrained his property at 5, 6, 7, and 8, Coltsgate Hill, disconnected sink waste pipes, which discharge on to gullies in the areas.

At 16 and 17, Bedern Bank, Mr. Parker has put in new w.c., complete, with 4 inch ventilating pipe.

At Kangel Cross, Miss Fox has redrained the premises, put in new w.c., abolished privy, built new cesspool; also, fixed ventilating pipe to drain.

At No. 1, Blossomgate, Mr Cawthorn has laid a new drain to the main sewer, with proper traps, &c.

At 18, Kirkgate, Mr. Benson has laid a new sanitary pipe drain, in lieu of old brick drain; abolished old pan closet, put in new sanitary closet, with 4 inch ventilating pipe.

Mr. Jackson has abolished privy at his property in Borrage Lane, and fixed a w.c. in place of the same, with proper flushing apparatus, and cemented floor and walls of ashpit.

At Claremont, (8 houses) Mr. Severs has abolished old pan closets, and fixed sanitary closets in lieu of above; removed soil pipes to outside of walls, and disconnected drains and rain water down pipes.

Mr. Bowman has entirely overhauled the drains to his property (Skellbank), put in disconnecting trap, new w.c's., ventilators, &c.

Mrs. Trees has laid a new drain to the High Mill, with proper gullies, disconnecting trap, complete. This property previously drained into disused Mill Race.

At Fisher's Court, Mr. Darnton and others, have put in a new sanitary pipe drain, in lieu of defective brick drain, with new sanitary gullies and w.c.

At No. 1, Queen Street, Mr. Aslin has relaid a portion of drain with sanitary pipes, fixed sanitary gullies, cemented out ashpit, and generally improved the sanitary condition of the premises.

At Nos. 26, 27, and 28, Low Skellgate, the drains have been overhauled and repaired; new w.c. fixed in lieu of foul ashpit and privy; sanitary gullies fixed in yard, and the premises generally improved.

At Mr. Akers, Kirkgate, the sink has been disconnected, ashpit repaired and covered, new sanitary gullies fixed in yard, in place of brick cesspits.

The drainage at the Deanery has been entirely remodelled; the old drains, most of which were constructed of bricks and stone, and in some cases passing under the house, have been abolished. All the new drains have been laid with sanitary pipes, disconnected from the main sewer with fresh air inlets, and ventilating shafts, carried above the eaves; new w.c's., and lavatories fixed, and everything completed.

The drains at the Canons' Residence have been overhauled, and several defects made good; new gullies fixed in lieu of untrapped brick cesspits; also lavatory disconnected from soil pipe.

The executors of the late Mr. Joseph Burnley, have entirely redrained the property in North Street; have disconnected sinks, waste pipes; fixed sanitary gullies in areas and yard; remodelled urinal; and repaired yard pavement.

At No. 7, Albion Terrace, Mrs. Harrison has disconnected sink waste pipe, fixed 3 sanitary gullies in yard, repaired soil pipe, and fixed 4 inch ventilating pipe to ridge of house.

At 5, 6, and 7, Bondgate, Mrs. Braithwaite has abolished well and pump, and laid down town's water; also carried out several other improvements to the property.

At Mrs. Handley's, Gooseberry Farm, Kirkby Road, the premises have been thoroughly drained with sanitary pipes and gullies, intercepting trap and ventilating pipe carried above building. The premises have also been supplied with town's water, by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners (owners).

At 5, Finkle Street, Mr. Bateman has entirely redrained his property, with sanitary pipes and gullies, in lieu of brick drains; disconnected rain water down pipes, and repaired w.c.

At the St. Wilfrid's Roman Catholic Schools, the foul privies have been abolished, and new trough closet fixed in lieu thereof. The school premises have also been redrained with sanitary pipes, with disconnecting chamber complete; all rain water down pipes disconnected, and discharged on to gullies.

Miss Judson has relaid the drains at her property, No. 11, North Road; put in new w.c., 4 inch stench pipe to ventilate drain; also intercepting trap, and new yard gullies.

At Mr. Brown's Farm, Quarry Moor, the whole of the farm buildings have been drained with sanitary pipes, gullies, &c., a new tank built, into which the drains deliver; the manure pit put into order; also an offensive sump filled up.

Mr. Bruce has built new manure pit, spouted privies, and fixed gullies at his property, Bondgate.

Mr. Judson has disconnected sinks, fixed sanitary gullies, &c., at his property, Fishergate.

Mr. F. Craven has abolished privies at Skellgarths, and fixed slop closets in lieu thereof; also built a new manure pit.

Mr. Leeming has put in new drains of sanitary pipes, with gullies, &c., complete, at Nos. 15, 16, and 17, Skellgarths.

At Swiers' yard, Westgate, Mrs. Swiers has abolished the old brick drain, and laid a new sanitary pipe drain through the passage to Westgate sewer; put in new w.c., gullies, intercepting trap; also stench pipe to ventilate drain.

At No. 8 Canal Road, the North Eastern Railway Company have fixed 4 sanitary gullies in lieu of brick cesspits; overhauled drains, abolished the well, and laid on town's water.

During the year, very many nuisances of minor importance have been removed, and a good many improvements have been carried out by property owners and their tenants, by order of the Sanitary Committee, for improving the sanitary condition of dwelling-houses, yards, and premises in the city.

Public Improvements.

The new main sewer in Skellgarths has been extended for a length of 32 yards, to the junction of Water Skellgate and Duck Hill, and 2 manholes built.

In connection with the Duck Hill Improvement, a new public urinal has been built, at a cost of about £25.

The new intercepting sewer for the Skell Valley, has been extended across the Skell, with cast iron pipes, and connected to the Bondgate sewer, at which point a manhole has been constructed.

In High Skellgate, two old brick sewers have been abolished, and all houses communicated therewith have been connected to the new pipe sewer.

In various parts of the city, 12 old brick cesspit gullies have been abolished, and the new patent sanitary gullies with cast iron frames and covers, substituted. Ventilating shafts have also been erected where found necessary.

Many private drains, w.c's., &c., have been tested, and, where found defective, repaired by the owners.

The expenditure during the year 1895, upon new sewers and sanitary work, amounts to:—On Revenue Account, £553 2s. 9d.; on Capital Account, £302 7s. 4d., making a total of £855 10s. 1d.

General.

All the sewers in the city have been well flushed with water during the year, especially in the summer months, and disinfectants liberally used.

The river Skell and its banks have also from time to time been cleared of all refuse, rubbish, and vegetable matter.

During the year the Scavenging Contractor has removed 2427 loads of refuse, &c., from 2058 ashpits.

Five different properties have been supplied with town's water, in lieu of shallow wells, some having become contaminated with sewage, others liable to become so from the mode of construction and situation.

The slaughter houses, cow sheds, dairies, milk shops, and bakehouses, have been visited and inspected.

Two cases of over-crowding in dwelling houses, have been brought under my notice, and remedied.

The Meat Inspector has reported very favourably upon the quality of the meat offered for sale in the city; no cases of unsound meat having been reported.

I have received no complaints of offensive trades being carried on in the city.

The Sanitary Committee held 32 Meetings during the year. They issued 10 notices under the Public Health Act, of which 14 (there being an arrear of 5 brought from last year), have been complied with, the remaining order being now in hand.

I have attended the Meetings of the Sanitary Committee, and given advice, when requested, on Sanitary matters.

By order of the Committee, the Sanitary Inspector was authorised to point out any necessary sanitary improvement to owners of property, and, where he found that such owners were willing to carry out the improvements recommended by him, formal notice need not be served. In about 107 instances this was done, and 85 have been executed, there being 22 now in hand.

I think, Gentlemen, it is gratifying to record that we have, this year, the lowest death-rate since my appointment as Medical Officer of Health, eighteen years ago, with the exception of 1885. You will also observe that the general health of the city has been remarkably good during the past year,

there being only six notifications of Infectious Diseases, which is highly satisfactory.

Of the eight deaths from Zymotic Diseases seven were young children under four years of age, and in several cases the secondary cause of death was certified to be convulsions.

During the past year further progress has been made with the Sewage Scheme. About twenty-five acres of land has been purchased at Fishergreen, for a Sewage Farm, and Purification Works, at a cost of about £3593 0s. 0d.; and tenders are about to be invited for the laying out of about twelve acres of land, and for constructing the Intercepting Sewers, necessary to take out all sewage from the rivers, which will greatly improve the rivers, and must benefit the general health of the city.

I may, in conclusion, state that there has been good work done during the year, by the Sanitary Inspectors, and Scavenging Contractor, and that the City, generally, has been kept in a very good sanitary condition.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

CHARLES HUSBAND,

Medical Officer of Health.

To the

Mayor, Aldermen, and

Citizens of the City

of Ripon.

CITY OF RIPON.

URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT.

Population .... Males	3440	
Females	4072	
		7512
Inhabited Houses (1891)		1655
Uninhabited ,, ,, ...		147
Houses Building ,, ...		12
Area in Statute Acres		1580
Persons to an Acre		4·7
Total Deaths for 1895		122
Deaths from Zymotic Diseases		8
Total Death-rate per 1000 per annum		16·1
Births: 112 Males, 96 Females		208

Year.	Births.	Deaths in Public Institutions.	Total Deaths.	Death-rate exclusive of Public Institutions.	Total Death-rate.	Deaths from Zymotic Diseases.	Deaths under one year.	Deaths over sixty years.
1878	223	25	170	21·3	24·9	31	36	58
1879	242	20	180	23·5	26·4	12	38	60
1880	222	18	163	21·3	23·9	12	39	55
1881	219	13	131	16·1	17·9	9	23	52
1882	229	18	137	16·1	18·3	6	27	54
1883	217	26	136	14·6	18·1	6	23	51
1884	243	18	147	17·1	19·4	4	35	55
1885	200	14	118	13·7	15·5	9	11	55
1886	227	12	157	19·1	20·7	21	29	66
1887	229	16	166	19·6	21·7	8	37	62
1888	223	16	145	16 8	18·9	21	38	39
1889	232	20	143	16	18·7	9	22	57
1890	207	18	129	15·3	17·1	10	25	52
1891	178	16	154	18·5	20·5	4	26	66
1892	189	26	173	19·5	23	6	22	81
1893	184	14	166	20	22·1	26	25	57
1894	186	13	140	17	18·5	6	31	50
1895	208	8	122	15	16·1	8	25	43